UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/606,343	06/25/2003	Cristian Petrulescu	MSFT-1734/302203.1	3983

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EXAMINER
PIERRE LOUIS, ANDRE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2123	

DATE MAILED: 03/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

Office Action Summary

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 January 2006.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL.**   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.

   4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

   Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

   Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

   a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

   1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

   2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

   3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   The amendment filed on 01/27/2006 has been received and fully considered,
claims 1-30 are presented for examination.

2.   Regarding the double patenting rejection, while both applications are pending, a
provisional double patenting will be maintain until either the conflicting claims
differentiate from one another or allowed. If allowed, the claims will then evaluated for
non-provisional double patenting.

3.   With regards to the 35 U.S.C. 101 rejection, while the applicant states that the
claims now show "implemented at least in part by in computer", the examiner is unable
to locate such limitation in the amended claims, and maintains the 35 U.S.C. 101
rejection of the claims.

Response to Arguments

4.   Applicant's arguments filed on 01/27/2006 have been fully considered but they
are not persuasive.

   4.1   While the applicant argues that the cited references, more specifically
Colby et al. and Nwabueze et al., do not teach "tying the first measure to the first
dimension by, for each entry of the first attribute, allocating the entry to each entry of the
first dimension in a first approximation" and an approximating or tying measure to a
dimension, the examiner respectfully disagrees and relies on the combined teachings of
Colby et al. an Nwabueze et al., especially Colby et al. fig. 5A-B, col.7 line 42-col.9 line
6; also col.22 line 64-col.24 line 49 and col.18 line 38-col.22 line 10. The examiner
further notes that the approximation argues by the applicant was not recited in the

original claims; however, considering such approximation to be simply a rough estimate,

prediction of data, or predefined data, the applicant is also directed to Colby figs.1-5B

and their descriptions. The applicant is further directed to fig.8 of Nwabueze et al. and

its description.

4.2   While the applicant believes that independent claims 1,11, and 21 should

be allowable along with the dependent claims, the examiner respectfully disagrees and

asserts that the combined teachings of the reference cited teach all the limitations of the

instant invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of

the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of

the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein

were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation

under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was

not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to

consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g)

prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

5.0   Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Colby et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,480,836), in view of Nwabueze et al. (U.S. Patent No.

6,775,675).

     5.1   In considering the independent claims 1,11, and 21, Colby et al.

substantially teaches a method in combination with first and second tables of data, the

first table organizing a first type according to a first attribute, and a second table

organizing a second type according to a second attribute, and particularly teaches the

steps of: modeling a first measure according to the first type of the first table (*fig.5A-B*);

modeling a first dimension according to the second attribute of the second table (*fig.5A-

B*); and tying the first measure to the first dimension by, for each entry of the first

attribute, allocating the entry to each entry of the first dimension in accordance with a

first approximation (fig.5A-B, col.7 line 42-col.9 line 6). Colby et al. also teaches the

processor and memory of claim 17 (see Colby et al. fig.3). Furthermore Nwabueze et al.

also teaches the use of a method that models a first and a second dimension as

claimed by the applicant and the use of an OLAP system to define the dimension (see

Nwabueze et al. col.4 lines 10-16) and teaches the computer medium with instruction as

claimed in claim 11 (*see col.4 lines 36-51*). Thus, it would have been obvious to one

ordinary skilled in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to combine the

teachings of Colby et al. and Nwabueze et al. for the purpose of obtaining a system

capable of performing various data analysis in a multi-dimensional data environment.

Also *in col.4 line 52-col.5 line 3* Nwabueze et al teaches the advantage of being able to

create and easily modify dimensions.

5.2   As per claims 2,12, and 22, the combined teachings of Colby et al. and

Nwabueze et al. teach the steps of: modeling a second dimension according to the first

attribute of the first table *(see Colby et al. fig.5A-B)*; and tying the first measure to the

second dimension according to the first attribute of the first table to allow the first

measure to be analyzed by the second dimension according to the first attribute (*see*

Colby et al. fig.5A-B, col.7 line 42-col.9 line 6).

5.3   Regarding claims 3,13, and 23, the combined teachings of Colby et al.

and Nwabueze et al. teach modeling a first measure according to the first type of the

first table, the first table comprising data stored in a relational database (*see Colby et al.*

fig.1A-D, col. 2 lines 1-23 and col.5 lines 26-37; also see Nwabueze et al. fig.1 (106)

and col.2 line 66-col.3 line 6).

5.4   With regards to claims 4,14, and 24, the combined teachings of Colby et

al. and Nwabueze et al. teach allocating the entry to every one of select entries of the

first dimension (*see Colby et al. fig. 1A-C, col.2 lines 1-23; also see Nwabueze et al.*

col.4 lines 36-51).

5.5   As per claims 5,15, and 25, the combined teachings of Colby et al. and

Nwabueze et al. teach allocating a portion of the entry to each of select entries of the

first dimension (*see Colby et al. fig.1A-D, col.2 lines 1-23; also se Nwabueze et al. col.3*

line 57-col.4 line 5).

5.6   Regarding claims 6,16, and 26, the combined teachings of Colby et al.

and Nwabueze et al. teach allocating an even portion of the entry to each of select

entries of the first dimension (*see Colby et al., col.6 lines 49-65, also col.2 lines 36-43).*

5.7   With regards to claims 7,17, and 27, the combined teachings of Colby et

al. and Nwabueze et al. teach allocating a proportional portion of the entry to each of

select entries of the first dimension *(see Colby et al. col.2 lines 36-50, also col.6 lines*

49-65).

5.8   As per claims 8,18, and 28, the combined teachings of Colby et al. and

Nwabueze et al. teach allocating all of the entry to a predetermined principal entry of the

first dimension (*see Colby fig. 1A-D, col.2 lines 1-23; also Nwabueze et al. col.2 line 66-*

col.3 line 12).

5.9   Regarding claims 9,19, and 29, the combined teachings of Colby et al.

and Nwabueze et al. teach the steps of: modeling a second measure according to the

second type of the second table (*see Colby et al.fig.5A-B, col.24 lines 20-26, also see*

Nwabueze et al. col.6 line 60-col.7 line 16); modeling a second dimension according to

the first attribute of the first table (*see Colby et al. fig.5A-B)*; and tying the second

measure to the second dimension by, for each entry of the second attribute, allocating

the entry to each entry of the second dimension in accordance with a second

approximation (see Colby et al. fig. 1A-D and fig.5A-B, *col.7 line 42-col.9 line 6, also*

Colby et al. col.18 line 38-col.22 line 10, and Nwabueze et al. col.4 lines 6 lines 26-49).

5.10   As per claims 10,20, and 30, the combined teachings of Colby et al. and

Nwabueze et al. teach the steps of: tying the second measure to the first dimension

according to the second attribute of the second table to allow the second measure to be

analyzed by the first dimension according to the second attribute (see Colby et al.

fig.5A-B and fig.1A-C, col.22 line 64-col.24 line 49, col.18 line 38-col.22 line 10, also

see Nwabueze et al. col.4 lines 6-24 and Nwabueze et al. col.4 lines 6 lines 26-49).

Conclusion

6.   Claims 1-30 are rejected and **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is

reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

7.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Andre Pierre-Louis whose telephone number is 571-

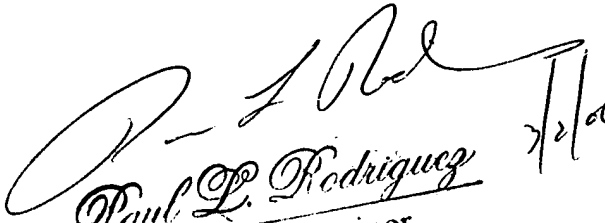272-8636. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 8:00AM-4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Leo P. Picard can be reached on 571-272-3749. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

February 23, 2006

APL

Paul L. Rodriguez
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2125